

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 31 OCT 2005

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Applicant's or agent's file reference 031215PC/GC/RG	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/AU2004/001659	International filing date (day/month/year) 26 November 2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 26 November 2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ A61H 23/00; A61H 39/04; A61H 39/00		
Applicant ATQOL PTY LTD et al		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 1 sheets, as follows:

☐ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or table related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

☒ Box No. I Basis of the report

☐ Box No. II Priority

☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability


☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited

☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 21 June 2005	Date of completion of the report 17 October 2005
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer  KAREN VIOLANTE Telephone No. (02) 6283 7933

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001659

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1 (b))

☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)

☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages 1-5 as originally filed/furnished

pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

☒ the claims:

pages as originally filed/furnished

pages* as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages* 6 received by this Authority on 21 June 2005 with the letter of 21 June 2005

pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

☒ the drawings:

pages 1/1 as originally filed/furnished

pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages

☐ the claims, Nos.

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):

☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages

☐ the claims, Nos.

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):

☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):

If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001659

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-10	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-10	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-10	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

NOVELTY Claims 1-10:

The invention defined in claims 1-10 is novel, as none of the cited prior art discloses a therapeutic mask comprising a mask body; means for attaching and securing the body to cover at least a portion of a person's face, and a plurality of passive pressure points extending from an undersurface of the mask body, said pressure points being adapted or adjustable to coincide with known acupressure points of the human face as presently defined.

INVENTIVE STEP Claims 1-10:

The subject matter of these claims is not rendered obvious in view of the teachings of any prior art documents taken in combination or in combination with common general knowledge.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY:

All claims have industrial applicability.

Claims:

1. A therapeutic beauty mask comprising
 - (a) a mask body,
 - (b) means for attaching and securing the body to cover at least a
5 portion of a person's face,
 - (c) a plurality of passive pressure points extending from an undersurface of the mask body, said pressure points being adapted or adjustable to coincide with known acupressure points of the human face.
2. A mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the mask covers eye and nose
10 regions of the person's face.
3. A mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the mask body is moulded.
4. A mask according to claim 1 wherein the pressure points include a hemispherical or curved outer surface to contact the face when the mask is in position.
5. A mask as claimed in claim 4 wherein the mask body is provided with
15 a plurality of groups of apertures, each group located in the mask at a location corresponding to local acupressure areas of the face, such that when in position, the groups of apertures in the mask overlies local acupressure areas of the face.
6. A mask as claimed in claim 5 wherein the pressure points include a mounting portion extending from the rear of the hemispherical or curved outer surface
20 to facilitate mounting of the knobs on the mask
7. A mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the body is moulded in a resilient material.
8. A mask according to claim 1 wherein the pressure points are removably attachable to the mask.
- 25 9. A mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the body is moulded with eye apertures and has a shaped nose portion.
10. A mask as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the pressure points are in clusters coinciding with selected positions on the forehead and cheek bones of the human face.